

City of Corunna
Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday, January 22, 2002

Present: Corey, Jessen, Johnson, Mehigh, Ockerman, Runyan, Sanderson.

Absent: None.

Guests: Joe Sawyer, City Manager; Janet Washburn, Parks and Recreation Director; Bob Buschman; Jackie Leone, The Argus Press; Judy Horton; Dave Wenzlick; Gary Arnold, Capital Consultants; Trevor Wagonmaker, Capital Consultants; Tim Crawford, Superintendent of Public Works; Chief Scott Johnson, Fire Department; Cal and Karen Hornus; Clark Long; Pat Yott; and other concerned citizens.

The meeting was called to order in the City Council Chambers by Mayor Corey at 7:00 p.m.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS REGULAR MEETING: Runyan moved, Johnson seconded to approve the minutes of the previous regular meeting as presented.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Ockerman, Johnson, Sanderson, Runyan, Jessen, Mehigh.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS SPECIAL MEETING: Ockerman moved, Jessen seconded to approve the minutes of the previous special meeting.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Sanderson, Mehigh, Johnson, Jessen, Ockerman, Runyan.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

AGENDA APPROVAL: Ockerman moved, Runyan seconded to approve the agenda as presented.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Jessen, Runyan, Mehigh, Ockerman, Johnson, Sanderson.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

APPROVAL OF VENDOR DISBURSEMENTS: Runyan moved, Ockerman seconded to approve the vendor disbursements as presented.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Runyan, Ockerman, Jessen, Sanderson, Mehigh, Johnson.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CALL TO AUDIENCE: Karen Hornus stated Mayor Corey has expressed some desire about having the fireworks come back to the Fourth of July Commission. She asked if it was possible to do the fireworks as it has been done in the past because trying to take on something more right now would be difficult for the commission. Mayor Corey advised he has only expressed his opinion to one or two people. He further advised the fireworks would not be coming back to the Fourth of July Commission because the commission has never had it. He also advised there is no intent to dump the fireworks on the commission this year, and he did not know where Ms. Hornus got her information. Mr. Sawyer advised he had a conversation with Ms. Hornus. Mayor Corey advised he thought the fireworks should become a part of the whole Fourth of July Celebration. Ms. Hornus stated it has been brought to the commission's attention that the city council is thinking of having paid parking in McCurdy Park on the Fourth of July. She further stated the commission does not know what council's intent is and how the parking will be handled. She also stated she knows the fair charged for parking, but she did not know how that worked because she was under the impression that the McCurdy will states that things were supposed to be free. Ms. Hornus asked if a directive would be coming from council that the Fourth of July Commission would need to find people to do this. Mayor Corey stated the city council has not had any formal discussion about charging for parking and advised he would like to see the McCurdy will. If the city does charge for parking, it would not be a fee to get into the park. Councilperson Ockerman stated the city has sub-committees now. There was a sub-committee meeting last Monday, which everyone is welcome to attend. He further stated the issue came up at the meeting, and the issue was discussed in detail. The city council has approached the Odyssey of the Mind people about doing the parking. Ms. Hornus asked if the city has already hired people to do the parking because the commission has already contacted someone to do the parking. Councilperson Ockerman advised the issue has been brought up several times and has been recommended to the city council. Councilperson Runyan stated if he remembers correctly, the parking was done by the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and there was no parking in the park whatsoever. Parking was allowed east of the grandstand and in Millie Taute's yard. He further stated he did not know if there has ever been a parking charge. Mayor Corey asked if this issue would be brought to the city council relatively soon. Mr. Sawyer advised it was his intent to bring the issue to the next meeting. Mayor Corey advised he thought there should be some coordination with the Fourth of July Commission. Janet Washburn advised the McCurdy will states the park is "free to the residents of the City of Corunna." She further advised she would make a copy of the McCurdy will. Mayor Corey asked what that meant. Mr. Sawyer stated to comply with the will would mean that the park would have to be closed down because the park is not free to the citizens of Corunna. Councilperson Ockerman stated the park costs the city \$180,000 a year and the city only gets \$30,000 back. All the city is trying to do is cover its costs, but this is only one idea. Mayor Corey advised he did not think that charging for parking would violate the will because the city was not charging someone to come into the park. Councilperson Ockerman stated the city would be asking for donations. Mayor Corey stated if someone decides to donate then they can drive in the park. Councilperson Ockerman advised no. If a person wants to park in the park, they will have to donate. Ms. Hornus asked what would happen with the volunteers, entertainers and vendors. Councilperson Ockerman advised he wished Ms. Hornus had been at the

meeting. The meeting was posted, but no one came to the meeting except for Judy Horton. Councilperson Ockerman further advised the purpose of the sub-committee meeting is to discuss things like this. Ms. Hornus advised she was not aware of the meeting and suggested sending out notices to the commissions. Councilperson Ockerman advised he was told the meeting was posted on the board at city hall.

Bob Buschman stated he has been a resident of Corunna for several years and was appointed to the Zoning Board of Appeals in 1998 after submitting an application, which was approved by the city council. He attended the first meeting, and it was recommended that he attend an appropriate instruction class to enhance his zoning knowledge, which he did at his own expense. He also stated after serving on the Zoning Board of Appeals for three years, he was approached by the city manager and was asked to attend an advanced training class, which he did in December 2001. Mr. Buschman advised he believed he was the only member of the Zoning Board of Appeals to attend the advanced training class. He further advised he submitted a reapplication at the end of December, which was required by the new city ordinance. Mr. Buschman explained an application was presented to the city council for approval on January 8. On January 9, he received a call from Mr. Joe Sawyer indicating that although Councilperson Dawn Johnson accepted his application, it was not supported by a council representative. Mr. Buschman stated the city asked its residents to volunteer, and he responded that he would like to continue with the position, which was after he was asked to attend the advanced training class. He asked why he was not reappointed after completing the class. He further asked if the denial was due to the fact that he recently resigned from the Fourth of July Commission when he is still actively involved with them. Mayor Corey stated he would treat what Mr. Buschman said as a statement. Mayor Corey further stated if a councilperson wanted to answer they could, if not, he would move on. No one addressed the question.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT/PRE-COUNCIL DISCUSSION: Mr. Sawyer reviewed his calendar and manager's report with council and with those in the audience.

CONSIDER AMENDMENT #2 FOR NORTH SHIAWASSEE STREET/BRIDGE DESIGN

ENGINEERING WITH CAPITAL CONSULTANTS: Gary Arnold, Capital Consultants, brought council up-to-date on the Michigan Department of Transportation's bridge requirements. He advised the city originally applied for Rehab Funds in order to rehab the bridge, but the Michigan Department of Transportation indicated at the time that they would not fund the project. He further advised the Michigan Department of Transportation stated they would fund a full bridge replacement so the bridge design was started two years ago. Mr. Arnold explained the steps that had to be taken with designing a bridge when dealing with the Michigan Department of Transportation. He further explained several conversations were held with the Michigan Department of Transportation about how wide the bridge was going to be. Originally, the bridge was designed for three lanes, but the Michigan Department of Transportation stated they did not design three lane bridges so a decision was made to design a four-lane bridge. He also explained there were discussions about leaving the two piers in place and verbal approval was given by the Michigan Department of

Transportation staff last fall to do that. Mr. Arnold advised the critical scour report was submitted to the Michigan Department of Transportation staff over two years ago, but since no comments were received, his office proceeded with the bridge design. The final bridge design was submitted in late December of 2001, and two days later, Capital Consultants received a call from the Michigan Department of Transportation that they wanted to talk about the bridge design. He further advised the consultant the Michigan Department of Transportation hired to review the plans told the state they should not fund a four-lane bridge, and the plans should be redesigned back to a three-lane bridge. After extensive arguments, showing the phone logs and copies of meeting minutes, the state relented and stated a four-lane bridge was acceptable. He also advised the same consultant ran the pier issue through the Federal Highway Administration, which is the funding agency for the bridge. The Federal Highway Administration department looked at the paperwork and told the state the piers would have to be replaced so now the state is telling the city that the piers have to be replaced or the federal government will not fund the project. Mr. Arnold stated he and Trevor Wagonmaker met with several people from the Michigan Department of Transportation where Mr. Arnold expressed his extreme frustration regarding the whole project and the state's actions, but it did not do any good because the Federal Highway Administration will not budge on the pier replacement issue. Mr. Arnold further stated the bridge would now be replaced in 2003. Councilperson Ockerman asked Mr. Arnold if he kept copies of what the state has told him in writing. Mr. Arnold advised yes. Councilperson Ockerman asked Mr. Arnold if he had copies of signed agreements with the Michigan Department of Transportation. Mr. Arnold advised no, copies of the meeting minutes are sent to the Michigan Department of Transportation, and they are asked to make corrections to the minutes, but all they do is file them. Councilperson Ockerman asked Mr. Arnold if he called the Michigan Department of Transportation to tell them he was nervous. Mr. Arnold advised no, and his office was told point blank that the pier extensions were approved and approval forms from the Michigan Department of Transportation were received. He further advised his office assumed the state's consultant was in touch with the Michigan Department of Transportation. Councilperson Ockerman asked if the city could go to the legislators to explain what has happened. Mr. Arnold advised he has been told that the Federal Highway Administration department will not approve the project. Mayor Corey asked if the contractor was a state or federal contractor. Mr. Arnold advised he believed the contractor was hired by the state. Mayor Corey asked if the contractor was still there. Mr. Arnold advised he asked the state to transfer the contractor off of this job, but he was not sure if the state did. Mayor Corey stated it was his belief when he sat on the council that the piers would be replaced, but someone along the line decided the piers would not have to be replaced. He asked if the Michigan Department of Transportation knew what the federal requirements were. Mr. Arnold advised he was not sure if there was a recent policy change by the Federal Highway Administration, but he was told a bridge with a critical scour needed deeper foundations. Mayor Corey asked if this was some type of a maneuver to stall the project or is there an earnest movement to get the bridge done. Mr. Arnold advised he believed there is an earnest movement to get the bridge done and did not believe the state was stalling. Mayor Corey asked why additional money was needed to redesign North Shiawassee Street if the bridge will be in the same place. Mr. Sawyer explained the pier replacement is the

most significant issue, but there are other issues such as the bike path and traffic signal, which is split between the projects to some degree. Mr. Arnold advised the curve going northbound is too steep and does not meet the American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials design standards so the city has to do a design exception, which has to be approved by the Michigan Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration. Mr. Arnold further advised once his office found that out during the design phase, it triggered a crash analysis, which meant someone has to review data over the past five years to make sure that the design would not increase the traffic in that area. Councilperson Sanderson asked if the scour analysis would have to be redone. Mr. Arnold advised yes. Trevor Wagonmaker stated there has been talk about repaving Shiawassee Street this summer and replacing the bridge early in 2003. He further stated Capital Consultants has offered to separate the two projects at no cost to the city. The street repaving part of the project has already been designed and approved. Mayor Corey asked why another scour analysis had to be done. Mr. Arnold advised because the configuration of the piers. The piers might change a little bit in location. Councilperson Johnson stated if North Shiawassee Street would be paved before the bridge is replaced, there would be wear and tear on the new road that the city paid for. Mr. Arnold advised there is no doubt there will be more traffic, but he did not believe there would be any impact on the road. He further advised he did not think North Shiawassee Street would last another year, but it was council's option to do both projects in 2003. Councilperson Sanderson asked if written verification would be asked for as the project goes along. Mr. Arnold advised definitely. Councilperson Mehig stated it sounds like the state and the federal are interpreting things differently. Councilperson Ockerman asked what it would cost the city to do the street project. Mr. Wagonmaker advised the construction cost was close to \$400,000 so the city's share would be \$80,000. Mr. Sawyer advised the city has to pay 100 percent of all design and construction engineering costs, which would be roughly \$300,000. He further advised the city was trying to maximize the use of the state grant. Councilperson Ockerman asked if the city's cost would be close to \$600,000. Mr. Sawyer advised he believed so. Mayor Corey asked Mr. Arnold if he had talked to the feds. Mr. Arnold advised no. Mayor Corey asked if that would be wise. Mr. Arnold advised his office could do that. Mayor Corey stated he was suggesting this so the city will not have another surprise next year. He further stated he was concerned that the fees would be raised continually, and he did not know how much more the city could afford. He was also concerned that the city would have construction for an additional two years. Councilperson Mehig asked how long North Shiawassee Street would be torn up for construction. Mr. Arnold advised approximately one or two months. Mr. Sawyer advised the city's match for the bridge would be \$125,000, the design costs for the bridge and road would be \$175,000, the bridge construction engineering cost would be approximately \$250,000, and another \$100,000 for the road construction costs. He further advised \$60,000 was budgeted for the water main replacement. Councilperson Ockerman stated money is getting tighter, and he is afraid to sit back and advised he was in favor of separating the bridge and street projects and go as fast as the city can. Mr. Sawyer stated there could be a two season bridge construction if it is started in the fall, but it was not his, Mr. Crawford or Capital Consultants recommendation that the city does that because the city could get stuck with a one-lane bridge through the winter if there is a problem with the first phase.

Mayor Corey asked if the city was relatively certain that it would have at least one traffic lane. Mr. Arnold advised yes, but the cleanest way would be to shut down the bridge and detour traffic. Mayor Corey thanked Capital Consultants for taking the time to explain what is going on with the projects. Ockerman moved, Mehigh seconded to approve amendment #2 for increases of \$14,900 to the North Shiawassee Street Design and \$52,600 to the Bridge Design with Capital Consultants to be paid for from line items 534-570-821.000 and 532-560-821.000.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Mehigh, Jessen, Runyan, Johnson, Sanderson, Ockerman.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF PERMANENT RAIN GAUGE:

Ockerman moved, Runyan seconded to approve the purchase of a 12" heated tipping bucket rain and snow gauge from Martin Control Services in the amount of \$5,725 to be paid for from line item 590-548-977.000. Tim Crawford explained the rain gauge was needed for the Sanitary Sewer Overflow's to prove to the Department of Environmental Quality that the storm was the cause for the overflow, and hopefully, the city will not receive a fine. Councilperson Johnson asked if the rain gauge was desperately needed right now. Mr. Crawford advised the city would need to start monitoring the water flow in March. Mr. Wagonmaker stated down the road it will be in the city's best interest to buy one in order to verify the rain amounts. If the city does not want to buy a rain gauge right now, the city can rent one. Mayor Corey asked what the rental cost would be. Mr. Wagonmaker advised \$600 for three months. Councilperson Ockerman asked if the rain gauge would be installed in a protected area. Mr. Wagonmaker advised on the roof of the Department of Public Works building. Councilperson Ockerman asked if the rain gauge was budgeted. Mr. Sawyer advised no, it is not. Councilperson Ockerman asked then why is the council doing this if the item is not budgeted. Mr. Sawyer advised the city is doing a lot of things that is not budgeted. Councilperson Ockerman advised the budgeting process is coming up. Mr. Wagonmaker advised the city can rent one in the interim, but March through May needs to be monitored. Councilperson Ockerman stated he was in favor of renting a rain gauge. The city budget is over in a lot of line items right now and suggested putting the item in the budget for next year.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Mehigh, Runyan, Jessen.

No: Johnson, Sanderson, Ockerman.

Mayor: No.

Motion DENIED

CONSIDER PURCHASE OF WATER DRILL AND TAP MACHINE: Ockerman moved, Jessen seconded to approve the purchase of a Water Drill and Tap Machine from Municipal Supply Company in the amount of \$2,746.89 to be paid from line item 591-556-977.000. Mr. Sawyer advised the city is still waiting for additional quotes on this item and suggested removing the name of the company from the motion and placing a not to

exceed number in the motion. Councilperson Ockerman amended his motion to read “to approve the purchase of a Water Drill and Tap Machine not to exceed \$3,000 and allow management some discretion as to the choice to be paid for from line item 591-556-977.000” and Councilperson Jessen supported the amendment.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Ockerman, Johnson, Sanderson, Runyan, Jessen, Mehig.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER APPOINTMENT OF DAVID HILLIKER TO THE CEMETERY BOARD OF

TRUSTEES: Ockerman moved, Johnson seconded to appoint David Hilliker to the Cemetery Board of Trustees for a term to begin upon the taking of the oath of office and continuing indefinitely to serve at the pleasure of the council.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Jessen, Runyan, Mehig, Ockerman, Johnson, Sanderson.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER APPOINTMENTS OF JIM LOCKWOOD AND THERESA BUSH TO THE

BOARD OF REVIEW: Ockerman moved, Jessen seconded to appoint Jim Lockwood to the Board of Review for a term to begin upon the taking of the oath of office and continuing until December 31, 2004 or until a successor is appointed.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Runyan, Jessen, Sanderson, Mehig, Johnson.

No: Ockerman.

Motion CARRIED

Johnson moved, Jessen seconded to appoint Theresa Bush to the Board of Review for a term to begin upon the taking of the oath of office and continuing until December 31, 2002 or until a successor is appointed.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Johnson, Jessen.

No: Sanderson, Mehig, Ockerman, Runyan.

Motion DENIED

CONSIDER APPOINTMENT OF DAVE WENZLICK TO THE SOFTBALL COMMISSION:

Ockerman moved, Sanderson seconded to appoint Dave Wenzlick to the Softball Commission for a term to begin upon the taking of the oath of office and continuing indefinitely to serve at the pleasure of the council.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Mehig, Jessen, Runyan, Johnson, Sanderson, Ockerman.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER APPOINTMENT OF VICKI BONASSE TO THE FOURTH OF JULY

COMMISSION: Runyan moved, Johnson seconded to appoint Vicki Bonasse to the Fourth of July Commission for a term to begin upon the taking of the oath of office and continuing indefinitely to serve at the pleasure of the council.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Johnson, Sanderson, Ockerman, Mehig, Runyan, Jessen.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER APPOINTMENTS OF DON WASHBURN AND GEORGE FULLER TO THE

FOURTH OF JULY COMMISSION: Johnson moved, Ockerman seconded to appoint Don Washburn to the Fourth of July Commission for a term to begin upon the taking of the oath of office and continuing indefinitely to serve at the pleasure of the council.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Ockerman, Johnson, Sanderson, Runyan, Jessen, Mehig.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

Ockerman moved, Runyan seconded to appoint George Fuller to the Fourth of July Commission for a term to begin upon the taking of the oath of office and continuing indefinitely to serve at the pleasure of the council.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Jessen, Runyan, Mehig, Ockerman, Johnson, Sanderson.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER APPOINTMENTS OF THERESA BUSH AND KEITH JOHNSON TO THE

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS: Johnson moved, Jessen seconded to appoint Theresa Bush to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a term to begin upon the taking of the oath of office and continuing indefinitely to serve at the pleasure of the council.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Jessen, Johnson.

No: Runyan, Ockerman, Sanderson, Mehig.

Motion DENIED

Mehig moved, Ockerman seconded to appoint Keith Johnson to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a term to begin upon the taking of the oath of office and continuing indefinitely to serve at the pleasure of the council.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Sanderson, Mehig, Johnson, Jessen, Ockerman, Runyan.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER APPOINTMENT OF THERESA BUSH TO THE FOREST MANAGEMENT

COMMISSION: Mehigh moved, Sanderson seconded to appoint Theresa Bush to the Forest Management Commission for a term to begin upon the taking of the oath of office and continuing until December 31, 2004 or until a successor is appointed.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Mehigh, Jessen, Runyan, Johnson, Sanderson, Ockerman.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER APPOINTMENT OF CHARLES HEGG TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION:

Ockerman moved, Mehigh seconded to appoint Charles Hegg to the Planning Commission for a term to begin upon the taking of the oath of office and continuing indefinitely to serve at the pleasure of the council.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Johnson, Sanderson, Ockerman, Mehigh, Runyan, Jessen.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER APPOINTMENT OF NICHOLE SMOLINSKI TO THE ECONOMIC

DEVELOPMENT BOARD: Ockerman moved, Sanderson seconded to appoint Nichole Smolinski to the Economic Development Board for a term to begin upon the taking of the oath of office and continuing concurrent with her position as city treasurer.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Ockerman, Johnson, Sanderson, Runyan, Jessen, Mehigh.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER AMENDMENT #2 TO THE RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR THE CORUNNA

CITY COUNCIL: Ockerman moved, Mehigh seconded to adopt Amendment #2 to the Rules of Procedure for the Corunna City Council, deleting lines 893 to 906 (Section IX – Council and Mayoral Appointments, Paragraph U – Corunna Area Ambulance Board as Operating) and adding new Paragraph U – Corunna Area Ambulance Board of Directors consisting of lines numbering 1043 to 1066.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Jessen, Runyan, Mehigh, Ockerman, Johnson, Sanderson.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER APPOINTMENT OF HOMER BENNETT II TO THE AMBULANCE BOARD:

Ockerman moved, Jessen seconded to appoint Homer Bennett II to the Corunna Area Ambulance Service Board of Directors for a term to begin upon the taking of the oath of office and continuing indefinitely to serve at the pleasure of the council.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Runyan, Ockerman, Jessen, Sanderson, Mehigh, Johnson.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER WAIVING COMMUNITY CENTER RENTAL FEE FOR CORUNNA POST

PROM COMMITTEE: Runyan moved, Johnson seconded to approve the Community Center rental contract with the Corunna High School Post Prom Committee and waive the \$350.00 rental fee contingent upon a \$100.00 refundable deposit as presented.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Sanderson, Mehigh, Johnson, Jessen, Ockerman, Runyan.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER REDUCED COMMUNITY CENTER RENTAL FEE FOR CHURCH OF THE

JUBILEE: Ockerman moved, Johnson seconded to approve the one-year Community Center rental contract with the Church of the Jubilee for \$200.00 per Sunday and waive \$150.00 of the standard \$350.00 rental fee as presented, in addition, a \$200.00 deposit check for contract infractions is required.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Jessen, Runyan, Johnson, Ockerman.

No: Mehigh, Sanderson.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CONTRACT FOR BUILDING INSPECTOR WITH

ROB KEHOE: Ockerman moved, Jessen seconded to approve the Professional Service Contract for building inspections with Rob Kehoe as presented.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Jessen, Johnson, Mehigh, Ockerman, Runyan, Sanderson.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

ACCEPT AND PLACE ON FILE SOFTBALL COMMISSION AUDIT: Jessen moved,

Ockerman seconded to accept and place on file the Softball Commission audit for the year ending October 31, 2001.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Ockerman, Johnson, Sanderson, Runyan, Jessen, Mehigh.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CALL TO AUDIENCE: Scott Johnson advised he wanted council to be aware about the

fundraiser the fire department has going on right now to raise money for a thermal imaging camera. There will be people going door-to-door soliciting family portraits, and as far as he knows, the fundraiser has been successful so far. He further advised if council gets any calls, the people going door-to-door have a letter from the fire department with his signature, and if there are any complaints, they can be given to him and he will check out the complaint. Councilperson Ockerman asked if this was the same camera that the fire department did not have support from the fire board to get. Mr. Johnson advised yes. The fundraiser was brought to the fire board in September, and he

was given the okay to go ahead. Councilperson Ockerman stated he did not recall this. If something like this is going to be done, and the fire board was not in agreement, the mayor might get upset. Mayor Corey advised he was not upset about the fundraiser. He could tell the person who came to his door did this type of work for a living because he did some pretty fast-talking, and he was under the impression that the entire \$20.00 went towards the camera, but it does not. Mayor Corey further advised he donated money because he did not care about the portrait. He asked if the company gets 60 percent. Mr. Johnson advised the company does take a percentage. Mayor Corey advised it should be clearly explained to the people at the door that the full \$20.00 does not go towards the camera purchase. Mr. Johnson advised he would contact the representative to make sure this issue is addressed. He further advised approximately four years ago, the fire department had the same fundraiser to raise money for the extraction equipment and about \$2,500 was raised. Mayor Corey asked what the cost of the camera was. Mr. Johnson advised the cost of the camera is around \$20,000. Mayor Corey asked how \$2,000 or \$3,000 would help. Mr. Johnson advised there would be a lot of fundraisers. Councilperson Sanderson asked what the picture was. Mr. Johnson advised a person would get an 11 x 13 portrait for \$20.00. He further advised if a person wants to buy more pictures, the fire department would also get a percentage of whatever package is purchased, but no one has to buy a package. Councilperson Sanderson stated he would rather give the fire department \$20.00. Mr. Johnson advised several people from the city have donated \$20.00, and there is an envelope for donations in his mailbox at city hall. People have the option of leaving their name or not. Mayor Corey stated the residents do not know there is an envelope at city hall. Councilperson Jessen suggested putting something in the next newsletter about collecting money for the camera.

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION: Councilperson Ockerman advised there has been a lot of activity at the ambulance board meetings. The ambulance board found another \$51,000 in unpaid taxes that the ambulance service owes for 2001, which is another setback for the ambulance board. He further advised the ambulance board had to take the balance of the money and pay it on two different income taxes that were due by January 31 or there would be another \$6,000 in penalties. He also advised the ambulance service is losing \$5,000 to \$6,000 per month. Mayor Corey asked if there has been any discussion about contracting the service out to another ambulance. Councilperson Ockerman advised he did not believe that is the intent. He further advised the bulk of the city council have known all along that the household fees will have to be raised. He also advised the biggest problem is not putting money in a boat that has a hole in it. The hole has to be fixed first and that is the ambulance's board real intent. Mayor Corey stated he understood that but asked if the ambulance board has gotten to a point where it was looking at contracting the service out. Councilperson Ockerman advised yes, but it depends on how the ambulance board negotiates with Lansing Mason. Councilperson Mehig advised an increase in the household fee would probably bring the ambulance service into a non-losing area. He further advised he felt the ambulance service was salvageable. He also advised he believes the ambulance board has gotten to the point where it knows the ambulance service is bleeding and what the problems are. Councilperson Ockerman stated people were telling him that Advanced Life Support would save the ambulance service, but it is not saving the ambulance service because a

full-time paramedic has to be available 24/7. Councilperson Runyan asked when was the last time the household fee was raised and if the \$25.00 fee is relative to the other municipalities. Councilperson Ockerman advised the proposed fee increase is comparable. Councilperson Johnson advised some municipalities have raised their fee to \$25.00 and \$30.00. Councilperson Jessen stated he would be glad to pay \$25.00 if that is what is needed.

Councilperson Johnson advised she missed the Library Board meeting, and the Airport Board did not have a quorum.

Mayor Corey stated the upper levels of stores in the downtown are being developed for loft living in Owosso, which might work here in Corunna. He suggested going on a field trip to tour the area.

ADJOURN: Runyan moved to adjourn.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Jessen, Runyan, Mehig, Ockerman, Johnson, Sanderson.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED Time was 9:35 p.m.

STEPHEN COREY, MAYOR

YVONNE F. LONG, CITY CLERK